

# COUNCIL BRIEFS

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January 16, 2015

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## **West Hartford rank high in Healthiest**

**Housing Market in CT:** A new study from SmartAsset that ranked the healthiest housing markets in Connecticut placed West Hartford in the second place behind Darien.

SmartAsset's criteria for ranking included relatively low number of days a home is on the market, the higher than average number of years residents live in homes, stable home prices, affordability and the low number of homes sold at a loss. [To read more, click here.](#)

**19<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK Day:** Join us for the 19th annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life on Monday, January 19, 10:00-11:30 AM, at the West Hartford Town Hall auditorium, 50 South Main Street. West Hartford's special event that pays tribute to Dr. King's ideals and vision is free and open all.

This year's celebration features keynote speaker Linda J. Kelly of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. Audrey Washington of NBC Connecticut, will serve as the emcee. The celebration also features Yale University Chaplin Frederick Streets, Mayor Scott Slifka, Kaitlyn Jones of Conard High School and Lydia Henning of Hall High School. The Hall Jazz Combo, Voices of Bristow and Conard's Voices of the World choir will provide the music.

**Fire Dept & Elmwood Senior Center reintroduce A File of Life:** The West Hartford Fire Department and Elmwood Senior Center have partnered for a program to help participants document their vital medical information and make the information readily accessible to emergency medical responders.

A File of Life is stored on the refrigerator and when completed lists the resident's name, emergency contact, medications, allergies and insurance and is available for distribution through Fire Department Headquarters, 95 Raymond Road, and Elmwood Senior Center.

## **Town That Cares funds smoke and CO detectors:**

The Fire Department will be the recipient of \$2000 from The Town That Cares Fund purchase smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors for West Hartford residents in financial need. Together, with Human and Leisure Services, the Fire Department hopes to continue to provide strong fire prevention and protection to all town residents. Pfau's Hardware has joined this community effort as the provider of the devices.

**Changes to office hours and personnel in the Registrars of Voters Office:** The Registrars of Voters Office welcomes Beth Kyle as the new Republican Registrar of Voters, replacing Eleanor Brazell who served in that role since July 1, 2003 and retired on January 6, 2015.

In addition, two new deputy registrars have been hired. They are Paula Stabnick and Eileen Swanton. Carolyn Thornberry was re-elected Democrat Registrar of Voters. The administrative functions of the office is being managed by Madonna King, Deputy Town Clerk, who was promoted to that role on July 1, 2014. By integrating the Town Clerk's Office and the Registrar of Voters Offices, services will be streamlined to residents.

The Registrars of Voters office has new hours of operation; they are Wednesday 12:00-5:00 PM and Fridays 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM.

**Free Radon Test Kits available:** The state Department of Public Health urges Connecticut residents to test their homes for radon gas in January. The West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District has FREE test kits and information available to residents at their offices located at 580 Cottage Grove Road. For more information, please contact the district at 860-561-7900.

Ronald F. Van Winkle  
Town Manager